TRADE AND INDUSTRIES

Assembly and has been awaiting the assent of the Legislative Council. The adoption and enforcement of a Fruit Products Control Order of 1948 of the Government of India was under consideration.

(iv) Labour.

Labour conditions.

598. The general labour condition throughout the year was, to a great extent, calm and peaceful though certain strikes were staged by some of the industrial concerns. But in the first half of the year, the labour condition was perturbed due to the prolonged strikes by some of the industrial concerns. All the important labour legislations passed at the Centre were also made applicable to Mysore.

599. The main causes for these strikes were demand for higher wages, bonus and dearness allowance, for cancellation of suspension orders, annual increments, as a protest against disciplinary action taken against some employees, regarding holidays, enforcement of standing orders, reinstatement of workers, etc. In all these cases timely and active interference of the departmental officers brought the situation under control and normal conditions were restored. There were 26 strikes during the year as against 29 in the previous year.

Labour Associations.

600. There were 89 Labour Associations functioning at the beginning of the year. Eight more Labour Associations were registered under the Mysore Labour Act, 1942. All the associations were functioning properly except 8 in Bangalore Division, 9 in Mysore Division and 1 in Plantation Division.

601. There were 129 undertakings coming under the purview of the Mysore Labour Act, 1948, during the year. Of these, 91 were industrial concerns and 38 were plantation estates. The total number of operatives employed in these undertakings was 94,127 as against 87,953 in the previous year. Of these, 80,611 were men, 12,169 women and 1,347 children.

Wages, Dearness Allowance and Bonus.

602. There was no uniformity in the rates of wages paid to the respective employees, except in the Kolar Gold Fields where uniform rates of wages were being paid in all the four mines and the K. G. F. Electricity Department. Though all the industrial concerns in the State paid D. A. to their respective employees, still the rate of D. A. varied from factory to factory. The total amount of D. A. paid

during the year was Rs. 1,30,04,156 (Rs. 1,20,39,227). The payment of bonus in various concerns also differed from factory to factory. The total amount of bonus paid by various industrial concerns during the year was Rs. 24,63,637 (Rs. 19,50,553).

Labour turnover.

603. There were 2,353 cases of voluntary withdrawal from service in the industrial concerns, 239 cases of retirement, 680 cases of discharge due to ill-health etc., and 177 cases of death.

Arbitration Courts.

604. Three Arbitration Courts were appointed during the year to enquire into the disputes between the Labour Associations and the Managements of (1) The Mysore District Automobile Workers Association, Mysore (2) The Amco Factory, Ltd., Bangalore and (3) The Kolar Gold Fields Mines regarding notices of change and grant of bonus, etc.

605. The K. G. F. Minimum Wage Board was appointed to go into the question and advise regarding the fixation of minimum wages in the K. G. F. Mining and Metallurgical operations.

Conferences and meetings.

606. The 8th Session of the Labour Ministers' Conference was held at Mysore on 26th and 27th December 1949. Labour Ministers of almost all Provinces and States and Union of States attended the Conference. On the first day, Sri Jagjivan Ram, the Hon'ble Labour Minister, Government of India, presided.

607. The meeting of the I.L.O. Governing Body began on 29th December 1949 and continued till the end of January 1950. Delegates from all over the world attended the meeting and important among them were Mr. David A. Morse, Director-General of I.L.O., Mr. S. Lall, outgoing President of the I.L.O. and M. V. M. Paul Ramadier, Ex-Premier of France. The third meeting was inaugurated by His Highness the Rajpramukh. On this occasion the souvenir entitled "Labour Marches On" and the brochure entitled " Progress of Labour in Mysore " were published.

608. The Tenth Session of the Indian Labour Conference was held at New Delhi. The Conference considered the Labour Relations Bill and the Indian Trade Union Bill which are now before the Parliament.

609. A meeting of the employers of the important industrial concerns was convened on 6th May 1950 under the Chairmanship of the Minister for Law and Labour to

consider employment situation arising out of cut of power due to the low water level in K. R. Sagar Dam. It was decided to give half pay and D. A. to the employees during the period of play off.

Working Class cost of living index figures.

610. The cost of living index figures for the Cities of Bangalore, Mysore and K. G. F. continued to be published each month for the information of the public.

611. The two recreational centres started by the Department in the working class areas of Bangalore, one at Cottonpet, and the other at Chamarajapet, continued in affording various labour facilities to the workers of the City. The question of starting of such recreational centres in Mysore and Davangere was under consideration.

Workmen's Compensation Act

612. There were 38 cases pending disposal in the Courts of the Commissioners for Workmen's Compensation at the beginning of the year. The number of cases filed during the year was 275 (209) of which 61 related to fatal accidents, 78 to non-fatal and 136 to memorandum of agreements. The largest number of cases, *viz.*, 125 was filed in the Court of the Commissioner of Workmen's Compensation, Kolar District, Champion Reefs. The total number of cases for disposal during the year was 313 including the cases pending at the beginning of the year.

613. The compensation amount for distribution at the end of the year was Rs. 1,20,503 including the sum of Rs. 44,657 pending distribution at the commencement of the year. The total amount distributed during the year was Rs. 46,540. In all Memorandum of Agreements and non-fatal cases where deposits in Courts are not compulsory, the injured persons were paid directly by the employers.

614. The Mining Companies in Kolar Gold Field continued to account for the largest number of cases and deposits of the amount of compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

(v) Joint-Stock Companies.

615. There were 434 (452) Joint-stock companies at the close of the year, of which 400 (420) were limited by shares and 34 (32) by guarantee. Of the new companies registered, 10 were public and 17 private. Four companies were voluntarily liquidated. There were 208 companies